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for $1 \leq N < a_{n+1}$, $1 \leq d(N) \leq n$, and since the sets $\{d(N) = d\}$ are disjoint, we have that

$$a_{n+1} - 1 = \sum_{d=1}^{n} f(n,d,C) \qquad , \tag{7}$$

where $f(n,d,C)$ denotes the number of integers N, such that $1 \leq N < a_{n+1}$ and for which the representation (3) and (4) contains exactly d non-zero terms. By the relation between the n-vectors of $C(e)$ and the interval $1 \leq N < a_{n+1}$, proved in the first paragraph of the proof, $f(n,d,C)$ reduces to the combinatorial function $k(n,d,C)$, hence the formula (5) is proved. Since the property C is, by assumption, independent of the a's, the formula (5), whenever it is defined, determines a single sequence. Note that the whole argument assumed (4), hence that $n \geq 1$. The fact that $a_1 = 1$ follows from applying (3) with $N = 1$, and thus the proof is completed.

To conclude, I wish to remark that if C depends on the a's to be determined, the equation (5) still applies as it can be seen from the argument above; in this case, however, (5) may have more than one solution.

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